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IN THE HEART OF THE DARK TOBACCO BELT
APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA
ESTABLISHED 1892

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Editorial Comment

WILL TAKE TIME

An amazing job .. far ahead of schedule .. is being done in bringing our boys home from Europe. But we are finding out that many of our troops can't possibly be released for many months yet. It is a stupendous task to move several million men.

The same will be true in the Pacific, even slower because of distances involved.

So don't expect so many of the boys home soon after V-J Day. The government will get them home as safely and as quickly as possible, but it will take time. Be thankful for the Victory, and for the fact that so many came through it all safely. Beyond that, there is the staggering job of getting the home front ready for them when they do return.

DON'T OVERLOOK THE BLOCKADE

The American people really go for something new. Whether it's a new hat, a new movie star .. or an atomic bomb!

Right now we are making a partial mistake by overestimating the effect of the new atomic bomb on the war's duration.

Winning a war means teamwork. All the hundreds of component factors have their part in the outcome. The "last straw" breaks the camel's back, but only because of the weight of the others that have "gone before."

There are an overwhelming number of reasons why Japan is being brought to her knees, and many of them are different from those that defeated Germany.

Near the top of the list, if not at the top, is the virtually complete blockade of the home islands. Even if an atomic bomb does knock out a hole in the ground a mile square, it would be a costly and time-consuming task to knock out enough "square miles" of this large island empire to crush a people so strong in their will to fight. This device may well be the "last straw that breaks the camel's back." But high on the list of other causes is the virtually total isolation of Japan from her sources of raw materials and supplies by the naval and air joint blockade. Any island nation can in time be defeated by blockade. The Germans failed to blockade England. British sea lanes were kept open and she kept on fighting, and we built up enough supplies and bases there to invade the continent. Air power makes blockade now virtually complete. Convoys can't slip through.

SPEED

Truly we live in an age of speed. All during the war we have had it drilled into us that we are doing things FASTER than ever before, despite the magnitude of the scale. Yet, there are a few things that just can't work but so fast. One of them is diplomacy. It takes time for the diplomats to do a job. During the past week we have witnessed an example. The negotiations for the Jap surrender are in the hands of the diplomats. Hirohito can't just call up Truman or Stalin and say, "let's quit." It has to be done through diplomatic channels. Dozens of people in several nations have to be consulted. Each has to think it over before a decision is reached, even on a minor detail. You have to code and de-code messages, translate them from one language to another, do it all forwards and backwards and cool your heels waiting, and waiting. So .. the masses of people just have to sit and wait, and wait .. the war is over .. no, it's still on .. the Japs have quit .. no they are waiting for the Swiss to send a counter-proposal .. the Russians keep rolling along like Ole Man River .. why don't they make up their minds .. the President has gone to breakfast .. when will we know something .. let's drop some more bombs ..on again, off again, -diplomacy!

OUR CONGRESS

Congress have to return to Washington soon to face the great problems connected with reconversion. The problems of peace will be as many and as varied as those of war. They may even be tougher on Congress, because outside of directing major policies and appropriating money for the vast effort and providing the accompanying home-front legislation, the actual direction of war is in the hands of the military staffs. Perhaps the responsibility on Congress will be greater in the next few years.

As a group, the members of our Congress .. the House and the Senate .. have done an excellent war job. As a group they merit the gratitude of the nation.

Many of them must be physically exhausted. Washington has been a tough spot in the war years and it has been no soft job to keep one's feet on the ground.

With no disrespect to any individual member of the House or the Senate, we voice the belief that now that the major war effort is nearing an end, the Congress may well benefit by the liberal addition of new faces. Time marches on, and the vigor of youth must constantly be blended with the wisdom of age. Youthful outlook as well as physical youth. Many returning veterans should offer for Congress in next year's election. Young business men with liberal political beliefs should be encouraged to be candidates. The halo of incumbency can at times become a drawback on democracy. Again, we say that with no individual member in mind, we declare the belief that the House and the Senate can profit by new faces. No seat in the House or Senate should go to its incumbent at the next election without a contest. If the incumbent can make the grade against strong and vigorous, youthful and liberal-minded opposition, fine and good; if not, the welfare of democracy will not suffer.

FENWICK - COLLINS RACE

In our joy over the handsome vote given the Gentleman from Halifax for the Democratic nomination for Governor in last week's primary, we confess that the vote for Lieutenant Governor came as something of a surprise. Living in a district where sentiment was overwhelmingly for the nomination of "Pat" Collins, we overestimated his strength elsewhere in the state and did not anticipate the "photo finish" which saw Charles Fenwick emerge as the winner by a scant 700-vote margin. However, it will be recalled that we took the position throughout the campaign that all three of the candidates for lieutenant governor were sound, able men, well qualified to fill the post.

A study of the primary will definitely show that virtually no issues were involved; the decision was based on personal contacts of the candidates with political leaders in the various counties. That is clearly shown by the fact that so many counties were carried by very top-heavy majorities for one or another of the candidates. For example, note the vote here in Appomattox County, and the vote in Wise County. Appomattox gave Collins 1,610 to 25 for Fenwick. Wise gave Fenwick 3,307 to 121 for Collins! The only explanation is that Collins secured the necessary backing of the local leaders here, and Fenwick got it in Wise. We would indeed dislike to think that there was that much difference of opinion among the people of Appomattox and Wise on any real issue of government! Maybe so, but we doubt it.

We are gratified at the unity at the polls of the voters of the old Fourth Congressional District. We are disappointed at the small vote by service men. We are satisfied that the Tuck - Fenwick ticket is a good one, and we shall support it in the November election.

ERA OF PLAIN LIVING

From Roanoke Times

Even though the removal of Pullman sleeping cars from civilian use will not effect the great body of Americans, since most of them probably never slept on one, their removal is a sharp reminder that the word luxury, of which the Pullman has become a symbol, is fast becoming obsolete in the United States.

Stressing that point, the Charlotte Observer: "A nickel package of chewing gum is a luxury now if you can get it. A seat on a bus, a real cigarette, a small bag of sugar, are 'luxuries.'" Other luxuries enumerated by the Observer are a new automobile tire made of real rubber, kind words from a sales clerk, a piece of twine for a package that you haven't got. The meat shortage being what it is, the time may not be distant when even hash will become one of the forgotten luxuries.

Plain living and high thinking are sometimes associated together as boon companions. We're not sure about the high thinking, but plain living is now the general rule, for reasons having nothing whatever to do with the contents of one's purse.

REVOLUTION IN ENGLAND

From Hanover Herald Progress

The thumping victory of the Labor party in Britain is more than a defeat for Prime Minister Churchill and his party, more than a mere change in government. It is that type of social revolution that nearly always follows a great war among any people capable of changing their government.

During war years, the people respond to the type of forceful dynamic leadership that is necessary to win wars. But when the war is over or peace is in sight, the voters want a change in their political leadership and their domestic economy. It happened among the leading nations following the last war. It is happening nearly everywhere in the world now.

This is no affront to Mr. Churchill. He retires at the height of his fame and would popularity. He has made his place in history as one of the great leaders of all time. He will be useful as an elder statesman in the government; and in England which uses its leadership to the fullest he will be so used.

In the United States the accident of fate has produced the same result. President Truman has succeeded President Roosevelt and in the five months that have followed this event almost the entire composition of the President's cabinet has been changed. We have a new government in America, too, and as much as Mr. Truman may carry out the Roosevelian policies, it is a different government.

Of the Big Three at Yalta, only Stalin remains; and we might speculate that he remains because it is not easy in Russia to change the government.

These new faces in the international council need not give Russia any advantage or in any way change our international policies. The American foreign policy remains the same under Truman as under Roosevelt. The British foreign policy was not an issue in the English elections and Clement Attlee has been at Churchill's side at the Potsdam conferences.

The world will be much the same with our two great leaders gone; but it will be much less exciting not being able to hear voices of these two masterful orators over the radio.

GIVE YOUR LIVESTOCK CLEAN WATER SUPPLY

Dirty water and unsanitary watering troughs are causing Virginia farmers to lose thousands of dollars each year. Your animal often gets diseases from drinking in stale summer ponds.. Even though your animals are on clean pasture, if they drink dirty water, they may easily get disease germs and parasites. Plenty of clean water for all your farm animals is one of the very best health measures that you can take during the summer. Scrub your watering troughs frequently. Put them where the sun can shine on them. Raise the troughs high enough from the ground so that the water won't become contaminated by droppings from the animals.

Give your hogs plenty of water and see that they get lots of shade because hogs cannot perspire. Plenty of water for your dairy cows means greater milk production. Your horses and mules need a good supply of water to keep them from having heat strokes during the summer. And your beef cattle should have water also if you want them to give maximum gains.

Clean water and proper watering troughs pay you big dividends in larger livestock profits.

Sugar supply for civilians is not likely to rise swiftly.

Commercial airlines being formed to serve Virginia towns and cities.

Problem of high divorce rate is vexing British.

Pulpwood is a big crop. The nation needs your production.

Reno chamber of Commerce buys Halsey a special $2,000 saddle to use in case he desires to ride the white horse of Hirohito through the streets of Tokyo.

The method in surrender of Italy being followed with Japs.

YOUR OWN quota, is 10%!

★ ★ ★

Load your country 10% of your pay or have the Nazis and Japs take (not pay now) 100%!

That's what we and every one of us face today!

Victory or defeat!

Buying War Bonds or selling ourselves into slavery!

Getting tough with ourselves or getting taken by the Axis!

Your quota—and everybody's quota is 10% of pay—should be invested in WAR BONDS and STAMPS!

Join America's all-out effortive . . . increase your WAR BOND savings to at least 10% NOW!

Get the details from your employer, bank, post office or other WAR BOND sales agency . . . TODAY!

Voice of the People . . .

August 9, 1945.

Editor, Times-Virginian,
Appomattox, Va.

Dear Sir,

In your weekly issue of the Times-Virginian of Aug. 9th, I read with interest the statement of Mr. Crawley explaining why students at Appomattox High School cannot enter college.

Being a graduate of this same school 29 years ago, under Mr. Crawley, I received my diploma. This diploma, at that time, would have entered me in any college. There was no question of being able to hold your own with graduates of any other high school.

Since 1933 I have been a patron of Appomattox High School. I have one son that graduated here in 1944 and received his diploma. Imagine my surprise when informed by a State College that he did not have the required subjects for entrance. A number of other graduates have been rejected. We have found it necessary to send these graduates to preparatory schools as post-graduates in order to prepare them for college entrance. This fact makes us wonder what the real value of a diploma from A. H. S. is. To date I have found its value equal to three years in a first class preparatory school.

Mr. Crawley states that the school does not attempt to prepare all of its students for colleges, as was the custom years ago. It does seem that the requirements of an accredited high school should embrace, in your years, the minimum compulsory subjects for college entrance.

We have one of the finest school buildings in the state and I know that every citizen in Appomattox is proud of it. We also have a veteran faculty. It seems from Mr. Crawley's statement that by following the advice of the state authorities, courses have been modified to such an extent, that graduates cannot enter college unless they lower their standards. Would it not be better to raise the standards of our schools to that of state colleges?

It does seem unfair to high school patrons of Appomattox to be put to the expense of a year in prep schools when we have a school here that should answer the purpose. We are paying taxes to maintain an accredited high school when in fact we have to graduate our students from other schools before they can enter colleges that do not lower their requirements.

This letter is not meant as a reflection on any of our school authorities but is an appeal to them to see that the standards required of graduates will not force them to take an extra year before they can enter even state colleges.

Yours very truly,
W. C. Ould.

RATION GUIDE

PROCESSED FOODS:

Blue Stamps: Y2, Z2, A1, B1, C1, now valid, expire August 31.
D1, E1, F1, G1, H1, now valid, expire September 30.
J1, K1, L1, M1, N1 now valid, expire October 31.
P1, Q1, R1, S1, T1 now valid, expire November 30.

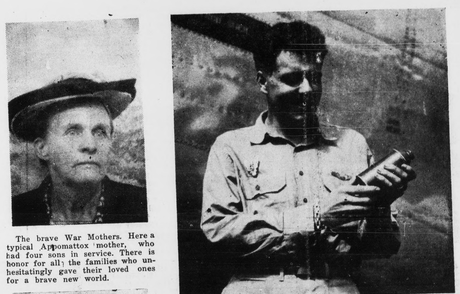
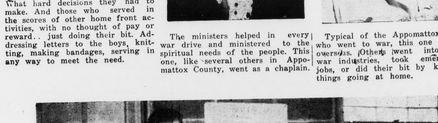
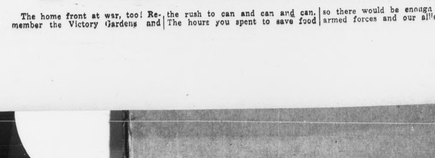
MEATS AND FATS:

Red Stamps: Q2, R2, S2, T2, U2, now valid, expire August 31.
V2, W2, X2, Y2, Z2, now valid, expire September 30.
A1, B1, C1, D1, E1, now valid, expire October 31.
F1, G1, H1, J1, K1, now valid, expire November 30.

Sugar: Sugar Stamp 36, good for 5 lbs., expires August 31.

Shoes: Airplane Stamps 1, 2, 3, and 4 now good. No. 4 became valid August 1.

Gasoline: A-16 coupons valid through September 21.

Glad Tidings

Appomattox at War! Remember These Typical Scenes?